FBIS DAILY REPORT CONTENTS

South Asia

Vol VIII No 148 30 July 1980

AFGHANISTAN

Commutation of Death Sentences Announced C 1
Quarrying Explosions To Take Place Near Wasilabad C 2
AFP: Rebels To Set Up Provisional Government C 2
BBC Reports on Afghan Army Mutiny, Soviet Reaction C 3

INDIA

Gandhi Continues Parley on Assam Solution E 1
Petroleum Minister Denies Dependence on USSR E 1
Burma's U Nu Leaves for Home 29 July E 1
Briefs: Cable Link With Malaysia E 1

IRAN

Developments in Relations With U.S., Hostages I 1
Congressmen's Letter on Hostages I 1
Tehran on Students in Washington I 1
Foreign Ministry on Students I 2
Qotbzadeh Denies Reports of Resignation I 3
Developments Concerning Relations With Iraq I 4
Further on Bostan Clash I 4
Attacks in Kermanshah I 5
Afghan Mojahedin Reportedly Kill 160 Communists I 5
Air Force Chief Reportedly Escapes to Egypt I 5
Bani-Sadr Attends Session of National Security Council I 6
Situation Unsettled on Finding Prime Minister I 6
Khalkhali 'Only Approvable Choice' I 7
Joint Staff Solicits Views on Improving Army I 7
Central Bank Reports Consumer Price Index Rise I 8
Tehran Newspaper BAMDAD To Cease Publishing 31 July I 9
[BAMDAD 23 Jul]
Presidential Candidate on French Protection of Bakhtiar I 10
[KEYHAN 21 Jul]
Shahpur Bakhtiar Interviewed on Political Events I 11
Nationalist Journalist Organization Issues Statement I 18
[Free Voice of Iran]
NVOI Comments on International, Domestic Issues I 19
Banning of Afghan Activities I 19
Criticism of Foreign Ministry I 20
Commentary on Purging I 22
24 July Commentaries I 23
25 July Commentary I 24
26 July Commentaries I 24
28 July Commentaries I 25

COMMUTATION OF DEATH SENTENCES ANNOUNCED

LD292005 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 29 Jul 80

[Text] The Presidium of the Revolution Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan [DRA] has commuted to 15 years' imprisonment the death sentences passed by the special revolutionary court on Shir Mohammad, son of Fayz Mohammad, resident of Behsud district, and Qorban 'Ali, known as Hakem, son of 'Abdollah, resident of the Nawer district of Ghazni Province, who were sentenced in an open session of the court after being accused of disrupting the peaceful life of the city of Kabul, looting and plundering, in consideration of the applications from the accused to the Presidium requesting commutation of the death sentence and out of special respect for the holy month of Ramadan.

A source at the directorate of the special revolutionary court, while making this known, reported that our dear compatriots had already been informed that the special revolutionary court in open session had considered the criminal dossiers of 12 terrorists, destructive counterrevolutionaries and elements opposed to the DRA Government who, under the influence of the imperialist countries, to create disorder and disrupt the peaceful and comfortable life of the citizens of Kabul, had set about terrorizing a number of residents, setting fire to vehicles, looting state and private property, and had caused disorder, disrupted security with arms in some places and had taken part in the 21-22 February disorders; after separate consideration of the cases of each of the accused, in accordance with the law and the sharia and democratic legality, they had been given the opportunity to defend themselves.

Each of the accused had defended himself in an atmosphere of complete freedom and democracy. After the submission of the defense of the accused, the judiciary committee, in consideration of the crimes of the criminals and their defense, on the basis of all substantial documents and of the fact that at (?the residence) of the accused were found different types of arms and handgrenades, [word indistinct], bottles containing inflammatory and poisonous substances, manifestos, leaflets, other files and prohibited papers, and other (?evidence), the court had passed the following sentences:

Shir Mohammad, son of Fayz Mohammad, resident of Behsud district, and Qorban 'Ali, known as Hakem, son of 'Abdollah, resident of the Nawer district of Ghazni Province, sentenced to death;

Barat 'Ali Jafari, known as Qasim, 16 years in prison;

'Ali Jafar, son of Safeullah; 'Ain 'Ali, son of (Enshah); and Haji Welayat 'Ali, known as Haji Modir, son of 'Abdol 'Ali, each to 7 years in prison;

Sayd Mohammad Bashir, son of Ayd Aqa Husain, 5 years and 6 months in prison;

Mohammad Daud Bakhtyari, son of Ahmad 'Ali; Dad Mohammad, son of L'al Mohammad; Khan Mohammad, son of Yar Mohammad; and Mohammad Musa, son of [name indistinct] Mohammad, each to 5 years in prison.

Of course, it was mentioned in the decision that the death sentences concerning Shir Mohammad and Qorban 'Ali, known as Hakim, in accordance with the last item of article 58 of the DRA Basic Principles, could be carried out after endorsement by the Presidium of the DRA Revolution Council.

Regarding the others accused, the order of the court was final, in accordance with the directives of article 11 of the special revolutionary court law.

In accordance with the final item of article 58 of the DRA Basic Principles, on the proposal of the directorate of the special revolutionary court and the decision of 21 July concerning the execution of Shir Mohammad, son of Fayz Mohammad, resident of Behsud district, and Qorban 'Ali, known as Hakem, son of 'Abdullah, resident of the Nawer district of Ghazni Province, the Presidium of the DRA Revolution Council at its 28 July meeting considered the proposal of the special revolutionary court and as a result commuted their sentences from death to 15 years' imprisonment.

The agreement to commute their punishment on the basis of the appeals submitted by the accused themselves to the revolutionary court and out of respect for the holy month of Ramadan has been officially made known to the accused, and, in accordance with the promise given, it has been announced for the information of our compatriots.

QUARRYING EXPLOSIONS TO TAKE PLACE NEAR WASILABAD

LD291448 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 0330 GMT 29 Jul 80

[Text] Here is an announcement of the construction unit of the electricity board.

In order to extract construction stones needed by the Department of Construction of the electricity board, today, Tuesday, 29 July, dynamite blasts will be carried out in the vicinity of the Wasilabad mountain, close to Brezhna Kut, from 0900 until 1200. The esteemed citizens and in particular the residents of the area should not get alarmed.

[Wasilabad mountain is the dividing boundary between Division No 7 of Reshkhor and the central garrison headquarters presently the headquarters of the Russian's military command. It is 10 miles southeast of Kabul city.]

AFP: REBELS TO SET UP PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT

OW291822 Hong Kong AFP in English 1815 GMT 29 Jul 80

[Text] New Delhi, July 29 (AFP)--The Afghan rebels have decided to set up a provisional government in one of the areas claimed to be under their control in Afghanistan, PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) reported from Islamabad today. The agency said the decision was announced by Hasan Gailani, president of the pro-rebel Islamic national revolutionary council of Afghanistan at a press conference in the Pakistani capital.

PTI quoted Mr Gailani as saying that the council came into being by a decision of the ad hoc "loyal jirga" (grand assembly made up of 1,000 tribal chiefs and leaders) [words indistinct] which met in Peshawar a couple of months ago. He admitted that so far only one of the six rebel groups, the National Islamic Front headed by Sayyed Ahmad Gailani, had named representatives on the council for the time being based in Peshawar.

The agency further quoted Mr Gailani as saying that his council would welcome assistance, including arms, from all quarters provided it was given unconditionally. In this context the council backed Mr Sayyed Gailani's recent move to get arms aid from certain Western countries.

Mr Gailani said the revolutionary council would set up similar councils in every part of Afghanistan to coordinate the activities of rebels. It would also take "appropriate steps" to make it "highly difficult and dangerous" for the Soviets to stay on in Afghanistan.

A former high court judge, Babrak Zai, who had presided over the ad hoc "loya jirga", was elected vice-president of the revolutionary council, claimed to be a non-political popular organization.

PTI said Mr Gailani, a political science graduate of Kabul University and Mr Zai answered questions through Hakeen Sirbuland, who was Afghanistan's consul general in Karachi before he joined the rebels. The dispatch quoted a UN situation report as announcing that 20 refugee schools had been set up in Balachistan Province to be manned by 40 teachers. By the end of June 932,194 refugees had been registered with the local authorities at various places, the dispatch said.

BBC REPORTS ON AFGHAN ARMY MUTINY, SOVIET REACTION

TA291554 London BBC World Service in English at 1500 GMT 29 Jul 80

[From "Newsreel"]

[Text] Reports reaching Delhi from Kabul speak of a major Soviet offensive around the town of Ghazni in eastern Afghanistan. There have also been persistent rumors in Kabul, that an Afghan Army unit in Ghazni has mutinied and taken up arms against the Soviet forces. Our Delhi correspondent, Mark Tully, says the threat in Ghazni must have been considerable for the authorities to launch such a big offensive while the Olympic games are in progress in Moscow.

[Begin Tully recording] As evidence of the Soviet operation, the sources say that military activity at Kabul airport has been at a very high level for the last week and remains so. Far more helicopters have been seen taking off from the airport than ever before. Last Friday, apparently, Soviet MI-24 and 25 helicopter gunships were seen taking off almost continuously during daylight. Long convoys of tracked armoured vehicles and military trucks have also been seen leaving the capital. The helicopters and the convoys have been heading towards the city of Ghazni, some 125 miles south of Kabul. Ghazni is on the key road linking the capital with two of the country's most important cities, Qandahar and Herat, and eventually with the Iranian border.

There have been persistent rumors in Kabul that an Afghan Army unit has mutinied in Ghazni and has taken up arms against the Soviet forces. A most reliable report claims that the headquarter's garrison of the 14th Afghan Division has mutinied. Other reports speak of ten thousand Afghan soldiers having mutinied. That appears highly improbable. The Afghan Army is at least 50 percent below strength because of the desertions and earlier mutinies. Its strength is now put at between 30 and 40 thousand. It seems most unlikely that the Soviet authorities, knowing the doubtful loyalty of the Afghan Army, have put nearly a third of it in one place.

Nevertheless, the threat in Ghazni must have been considerable for the authorities to launch such a major operation during the Olympic games, when the Soviet Union certainly doesn't want to remind the world of the war it is fighting in Afghanistan. Unrest in the army was expected following the recent government changes, which were a deliberate blow to the Khalq faction in the ruling party. The Khalq faction, which is opposed to President Babrak Karmal's (Parcham) faction, is now to predominate in the Afghan Army officer corps. [end recording]

GANDHI CONTINUES PARLEY ON ASSAM SOLUTION

BK291618 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 29 Jul 80

[Text] In New Delhi today, Manipur Chief Minister Dorendra Singh met Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi and apprised her of the talks he had been having with the leaders of the agitation in Assam. He also had a separate meeting with Home Minister Zail Singh. AICC-I [All-India Congress Committee-I] General Secretary Shyamsunder Mahapatra, who was present at both meetings, told newsmen that Mr Dorendra Singh placed before the prime minister a formula for ending the agitation. A formula had emerged in his discussions last week in Assam. He is to meet the home minister again tomorrow.

Mr Zail Singh will discuss details of the formula and the steps to be taken with his officials. [as heard] The conclusions will later be placed before the prime minister. Mr Mahapatra expressed the confidence that a solution would emerge shortly. Mr Dorendra Singh also expressed hope for a quick solution. He said while the law should take its course against those involved in criminal offenses, a lenient view should be taken in other cases. He would continue to be in touch with the leaders of the agitation so that vested interests do not sabotage the negotiations, he observed.

PETROLEUM MINISTER DENIES DEPENDENCE ON USSR

BK291018 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 29 Jul 80

[Text] Petroleum Minister Virendra Patil denied in the lower house of Parliament today an opposition charge that the country is heavily depending on the Soviet Union for oil exploration. Replying to questions, he also denied that his ministry is not showing much interest in offshore exploration. Efforts are being made to locate oil in all possible offshore areas. The government has decided to invite foreign parties for taking up oil exploration. It has also set up a committee of secretaries in this connection.

BURMA'S U NU LEAVES FOR HOME 29 JULY

BK291044 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 29 Jul 80

[Text] Former Burmese Prime Minister U Nu is returning to his motherland today after 11 years of self-exile in India. Talking to newsmen in Calcutta yesterday, U Nu wished the people of India peace and prosperity. He also visited the Netaji Bhavan.

BRIEFS

CABLE LINK WITH MALAYSIA--Work on the 2,200-km long-distance submarine cable link between India and Malaysia began on 20 July in Madras. As a beginning the (?shore end) cable was connected to terminal complex on the Marina beach. The ship carrying the cable will move slowly, uncoiling the cable into the sea. The vessel is expected to reach Penang in Malaysia in 18 days where the other end of the cable will be connected to the terminal building putting through telecommunication link between the two countries. With this link, India need not solely depend on the existing western route via Europe for transit to the United States. This 25-million-pound-sterling project will become operational in November. [Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 20 Jul 80 BK]

DEVELOPMENTS IN RELATIONS WITH U.S., HOSTAGES

Congressmen's Letter on Hostages

NC300932 Paris AFP in English 0921 GMT 30 Jul 80

[Text] Tehran, July 30, (AFP)--A letter from 180 United States congressmen asking their Iranian counterparts to give "absolute priority" to debating the embassy hostages problem was read out to the parliament here today.

But Ayatollah Hashemi Rafsanjani, speaker of the parliament, said "we have no time to bring up this problem now. We will discuss it another time."

Ayatollah Rafsanjani cut off other members who tried to speak, but Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali said: "This letter must not make us change our views."

The congressmen expressed their "profound anxiety" at the deterioration of relations between the United States and Iran provoked by the hostages crisis.

Their letter was handed to Ayatollah Rafsanjani yesterday by the charge d'affaires at the Swiss Embassy here--which is looking after U.S. interests in Iran since Washington cut off diplomatic relations--the newspaper ISLAMIC REPUBLIC reported today.

The newspaper quoted Ayatollah Rafsanjani as telling the charge d'affaires that Iran and the U.S. could not reach any agreement if the U.S. did not undertake to admit mistakes committed in Iran.

The letter, read by one of the six M.P.'s appointed secretaries to the parliament, said that the hostage affair had caused not only a breach of relations between Iran and the U.S. but also a world crisis.

The congressmen said that both countries needed a solution to eliminate the dangers threatening world peace at a time when the "free nations" were the targets of attacks by "forces of domination and expansionism".

The letter added: "We are well aware of the internal problems of our country but we ask you to give absolute priority to the solution of this problem."

Tehran Students in Washington

JN291843 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 29 Jul 80

[Text] In a telephone conversation with the PARS NEWS AGENCY today, a student in charge of the students' society in America and Canada announced that about 169 students were arrested and 60 others injured during the demonstrations staged in Washington. He added that one of the injured has not yet recovered consciousness after being beaten.

The student, who was speaking by telephone from America, said that the detainees, (?who are) members of the Islamic society, were transferred in groups of 8 to small cells with an area of not more than 2 and 1/2 meters. He added that most of these cells are unsanitary and that the detained students have at present staged a hunger strike. Four students have fainted so far as a result of salt deficiency, he said.

He went on to say that all members of the students' Islamic society in America and Canada have begun a hunger strike protesting the way they are treated by the police.

He added that all the Islamic society students who were not arrested have begun a hunger strike in front of the U.S. White House in support of the arrested students. They said that they will continue their strike until the arrested students are set free. They also appealed to the Iranian Government (?to firmly face) these matters and put the hostages on trial.

In his telephone call, this student added that the morale of the arrested sisters and brothers is very high and that the slogan of "God is great and Khomeyni is the leader," can be heard from the prison.

This student also said that according to reports received from prison, one of the students suffered a broken nose as a result of torture and interrogation. He also said that one of the interrogators is a SAVAK member called (Saqafi) who is working with two other Americans belonging to the so-called establishment of free Iran.

Foreign Ministry on Students

LD292126 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 29 Jul 80

[Text] The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran has issued a statement in connection with the savage behavior of American police towards Iranian students, which reads as follows:

Once again the cruelty and (?the nature) of American imperialism showed its evil and bestial face in the vicinity of the White House. This time the impudence of the [word indistinct] was so obvious that even the silence and the coverup attempts by U.S. television networks could not hide these cruelties. Yes, the scene of [words indistinct] yesterday witnessed one of the most shameful incidents of history. Yesterday, the [words indistinct] club wielders of America, trying to conceal their identity by not wearing their badges, savagely attacked Iranian students who had demonstrated in defense of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, even though they had obtained the necessary permit from the U.S. Government. They injured a large number of people and arrested others. The conduct of the U.S. police was so savage that one local Washington television network claimed that the police attack reminded one of the merciless police attacks on demonstrators against the Vietnam war. No doubt U.S. Government members and the freedom fighters of the world will come to realize the nature of the regime governing them. Putting together the pages of the crimes committed by America in different corners of the world, the biggest book of crimes in history by the name of "the antihuman [word indistinct]" would be presented to future generations of freedom fighters. No doubt the death of the criminal shah of Iran as the [word indistinct] of years of savage domination over Iran once again has reminded the wounded leaders of America of the Iranian revolution. Have the deadly blows dealt by the Islamic Revolution of Iran on the aging body of this broken-horned giant not been enough to make his empty head realize the authenticity and depth of the Islamic movement of our people? Have the repeated defeats of U.S. agents in Iran not been enough to make the leaders of America understand the fact that attacking the defenseless Iranian students demonstrates the lack of competence on the part of (?a force) which, despite its apparent magnanimity, loses its grip and resorts to childish and [word indistinct] acts when facing the authentic movement and steadfastness of a great and historic nation?

You, the suppressors of history: Has the death of the deposed shah reminded you once again of the tasty bait you have lost? Have you not understood yet that our nation, whose body has suffered great wounds in your hands, whose bones have [word indistinct] from your whip lashes, has now risen, and while enjoying God's support, intends to use the whip of God's wrath in the name of the suffering of all the oppressed nations of the world on your body?

If you had understood this fact you would not have embarked on these [word indistinct] and at the same time futile attempts.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, while seriously protesting the savage attack by the U.S. police, asks all conscious and freedom-fighting organizations of the world to reflect on the inhuman behavior of America throughout the world and join in the cries of a deprived nation which wants to live independently. The leaders of America should know that God's tradition is the disgrace of oppressors and that this kind of action only adds to their (?sins).

QOTBZADEH DENIES REPORTS OF RESIGNATION

LD291745 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1642 GMT 29 Jul 80

[Unidentified Tehran Domestic Service correspondent interview with Foreign Minister Sadeq Qotbzadeh--recorded; date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] Mr Qotbzadeh, greetings. I am speaking from the Central News Bureau of the Voice of Iran. Last night and today we have received certain reports from Washington quoting the French news agency and REUTER, as well as Cairo radio, which quotes one of the secret radios which has been heard by the U.S. State Department in Washington, saying that you, after resigning from your post as minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, have fled Iran and that you intend to ask for political asylum in France or America. Please, if possible, briefly give us your views concerning this rumor and especially concerning the extensive propaganda which America carries out against the Iranian revolution through Zionist news agencies.

[Answer--Qotbzadeh appears to be speaking on the telephone] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. The best proof of the falseness of this report is that I am speaking to you. The propaganda method of the Zionists, imperialists and communists--all of them are the same--is that they first start (?a rumor) from somewhere. Then one news agency quotes another and a third quotes from a fourth and in this way the rumor is spread throughout the world. This is clearly the work of American imperialism and Zionist (?news agencies).

The reason for this is that I have announced that I always express my views. I believe that one should say what he has to say. They want to say that there is no freedom in Iran and that if the foreign minister has said something then he is about to seek asylum and go. This is what they want to say. [passage indistinct]

This method of spreading rumors is a speciality of the corrupt, criminal ideologies of the world, namely Zionism, imperialism and communism. Naturally, (?I) pay no attention to it). I have neither asked nor will I ask for asylum in any part of the world. I am an Iranian and a Muslim, and I have been, am now and will stay in (?this country). And if I am not here, you should know that (?it has been necessary).

In any case, this rumor is nonsense. One should not pay the slightest attention to these words. Our people are more mature than [words indistinct] however, concerning the fact that they want to mobilize the public opinion of the world against the Iranian revolution, against the Islamic Revolution, you should have no doubt that the Zionists, the imperialists, the communists (?and others) are busy conspiring and working actively against the Islamic Revolution of Iran.

The reason for this is that (?they wish to put pressure and responsibility on us) so that we will become isolated in the world, so that other countries [words indistinct] will be cut off from us. The communists do this so that as a result of these pressures we may fall into their lap. The imperialists and Zionists are doing this to weaken us so that they may be able to return again and devour us. Unfortunately, [words indistinct].

The superpowers and (?their dependent elements) are in collusion with each other, or they are playing a game with one another and, in fact, want to make a bargain over us. This is the truth of the matter. This is what is happening, and in our view [words indistinct]. At the same time, one should be aware and careful.

DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING RELATIONS WITH IRAQ

Further on Bostan Clash

GF291315 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1230 GMT 29 Jul 80

[Text] The situation on the Iranian-Iraqi border in the Bostan region of Dasht-e Azadegan is calm at present. Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, gendarmes and brother revolution guards are vigilantly watching the situation and are controlling any movements by Iraqi forces in this region. This was stated by Col Mohammad-Hasan Rezavi, commander of the Khuzestan gendarmerie, in a telephone conversation with the Ahvaz central news unit at 1230 today.

Speaking about incidents in the Bostan region during the past 2 days, he added: Islamic revolution guards and military personnel were patrolling along the Bostan border at 0600 on 26 July when they were suddenly attacked by mercenary Iraqi Ba'thist agents and were compelled to retaliate.

This clash and scattered gunfire between the Iranian patrol and Iraqi mercenaries continued until 1600 on 27 July. The Iranian patrol units, aided by gendarmes, took up positions around the (Subleh) gendarmerie post and prepared for the Iraqi mercenaries' attack.

The Khuzestan gendarmerie commander added: Iraqi Ba'thists then opened heavy artillery fire from Iraq's (Subleh) post and this clash continued until 2330 on 28 July.

The Iraqi mercenary forces once again opened fire on Iran's (Subleh) post on the Bostan border at 0930 yesterday. During the 2-hour clash, the gendarmerie forces returned fire with great valor.

The Khuzestan gendarmerie commander also said: The gendarmes and armed forces damaged part of Iraq's (Subleh) port and silenced their heavy artillery fire, possibly killing some members of the Iraqi forces.

The Khuzestan gendarmerie commander added that he has ordered the Susangerd gendarmerie border guard to register a strong protest with the Iraqi border guard and to request that the aggression be ended. He also said: No casualties or damages were incurred by Iranian forces.

The Bostan border is calm at present. Forces of the Islamic Republic's army, gendarmes and brother revolution guards are vigilantly watching the situation and are controlling any movements by Iraqi forces in this region.

Attacks in Kermanshah

LD291718 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 29 Jul 80

[Text] According to PARS NEWS AGENCY, quoting the Kermanshah regional gendarmerie and the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps of Qasr-e Shirin, and also on the basis of reports reaching PARS NEWS AGENCY from Naft Shahr, the Khan Leyli border post and later the nearby Qasr-e Shirj gendarmerie station and Naft Shahr have been scenes of clashes between attacking Iraqi Ba'thist forces and the forces of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the gendarmerie, the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and javanmardan [local Kurdish militia] since 0900 today.

In the course of the clashes a Koln worker was injured by a ricocheting mortar shell. In Naft Shahr one of the oil-pumping-station storage depots was set on fire, but the Naft Shahr oil workers extinguished the flames. Later, two more of the pumping station's oil depots caught fire, and efforts to bring the fire under control are now in progress.

According to another report from Naft Shahr, three citizens of the city were injured, two of whom were treated at the oil pumping station. According to the same report, the forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran crushed the enemy attacks and inflicted heavy damage on enemy positions. There is no information regarding the extent of losses suffered by the Iraqi Ba'thist forces. A number of the Iranian forces have also been injured, but there is no detailed report on the injured as of now.

AFGHAN MOJAHEDIN REPORTEDLY KILL 160 COMMUNISTS

JN291759 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 29 Jul 80

[Text] Citing the Afghan Islamic movement, the PARS NEWS AGENCY announced that the Afghan Muslim mojahedin have destroyed 6 military vehicles and 1 transport vehicle with all its occupants and killed 160 communists.

The report says that the Soviet forces have destroyed three villages.

News reports say that MiG-23 planes have broken the sound barrier over some villages to frighten the natives.

AIR FORCE CHIEF REPORTEDLY ESCAPES TO EGYPT

LD300856 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0741 GMT 30 Jul 80

[Text] Kuwait--The newspaper AL-ANBA' of Kuwait today reported that the commander of the Iranian Air Force has escaped from Iran by military aircraft and sought political refuge in Egypt.

In a despatch from Tehran quoting informed sources, the date of the escape of the commander, whom it identified only by the name of General Baqeri, was not specified. It said that he escaped to Cairo for fear of being arrested by the Iranian revolutionary authorities "and of being brought to trial and charged with deceiving the government and being in collusion with the enemies of the revolution."

The paper said that the reason for the flight of General Baqeri was that the Iranian revolutionary government considered as treason against it and collusion with its enemies his failure in a mission he was charged with in West Germany, Britain and France.

It added that this mission was to convince the three European governments to allow about 600 Iranian pilots to continue their training in them, training which was broken off after they were expelled from the United States.

AL-ANBA' said that when General Baqeri returned to Iran and informed the government of the failure of his mission it did not believe him and considered that he "did not fulfill the mission in the best manner, but was in collusion with nonrevolutionary elements to keep the pilots from completing their studies and subsequently to prevent them from serving the revolution" and it decided to bring him to trial. However, one of his friends in the government informed him of this so he took one of the air force aircraft and escaped to Egypt.

BANI-SADR ATTENDS SESSION OF NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

LD291954 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 29 Jul 80

[Text] According to the PARS NEWS AGENCY, a session of the National Security Council was held this afternoon in the presence of Dr Abolhasan Bani-Sadr, the president and commander in chief of the armed forces. During the session, which lasted for over 4 hours, the country's security problems were studies and discussed.

SITUATION UNSETTLED ON FINDING PRIME MINISTER

TA291626 London BBC World Service in English at 1500 GMT 29 Jul 80

[From "Radio Newsreel"]

[Text] In Iran, there has been a further setback to attempts to find the prime minister acceptable to all parties. Ayatollah Khomeyni has refused to appoint a representative to a special committee to discuss the matter. The committee was suggested by President Bani-Sadr after parliament had failed to endorse the man nominated by him for the post of prime minister, Mr Mirsalim. Alex Brodie reports from Tehran.

[Begin recording] Mr Mirsalim was not the president's first choice, nowhere near it. He was probably the least objectionable of the names put forward by Bani-Sadr's political rival, the Islamic Republican Party [IRP]. But now there are indications that parliament, which must endorse the prime minister and which is dominated by the IRP, is not happy with Mirsalim, even though he is a member of the IRP's Central Council.

In a long, closed session, parliament did not endorse Mirsalim. One reason apparently was that Bani-Sadr had said he might not take any responsibility for the new government if its makeup did not meet his approval, that is, if the Cabinet was heavily loaded in favor of the IRP. So, having run into more opposition in parliament, the president suggested a postponement of the vote of confidence and asked that the selection of a prime minister be discussed by a special commission containing five members of parliament, a representative of him, the president and a representative of the imam, Ayatollah Khomeyni. But that idea has now been torpedoed. Ayatollah Khomeyni's office has said the imam refuses to appoint a representative, saying in effect that the appointment of a prime minister is Bani-Sadr's responsibility and disagreement between him and parliament is his and their problem.

Once again it is an impasse. In the meantime, the IRP seems to be putting on more pressure to have its preferred candidate, Mr Jallaleddin Farsi, made prime minister. Mr Farsi is one of the main leaders of the IRP, and it would be difficult to think of anyone less likely to get on with Bani-Sadr. They are poles apart. [end recording]

Khalkhali 'Only Approvable Choice'

NC291408 Paris AFP in English 1403 GMT 29 Jul 80

[Text] Tehran, July 29, (AFP)--Iran's Ayatollah Sadeq Khalkhali, known as "the hanging judge" for his frequent imposition of the death penalty, is "the only candidate for the post of prime minister whom the assembly and the president of the republic can approve," the newspaper ETTELA'AT said today.

According to the newspaper, the ayatollah had suggested himself as a candidate to the Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni, who told him "to discuss it with the president," Abolhassan Bani-Sadr.

As an itinerant judge and now head of Iran's anti-drug campaign, the Ayatollah Khalkhali has ordered hundreds of executions. He told journalists in June that the prime minister should be someone of his type.

JOINT STAFF SOLICITS VIEWS ON IMPROVING ARMY

LD291600 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 27 Jul 80

[Text] According to a PARS NEWS AGENCY report, the Joint Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran in a statement proposing 19 topics relating to making the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran as schooled and close to the people as possible, has invited all those with considered views to send their proposals and comments by 11 August 1980, giving their address for future contact, to the fifth bureau of the Joint Staff of the Army of the Islamic Republic of Iran located at Qasr crossroads. The topics in question are:

1. The army's mission and duties in times of war and peace;

2. The army's organizational structure to perform its mission;

3. The content of the organizational structure in the context of the army being Islamic and of the people;

4. The size and capability of the armed forces--the ground, air and naval forces--for performing the mission assigned to them in the context of internal and external threats;

5. The chain of command, the command system and authority and responsibility in the army;

6. The manner in which international relations, geographical location and foreign policy should influence the structure of the army;

7. A comparative study of the defense structures of the armies of the world;

8. The army's relationship with other armed forces, the Corps of Islamic Revolution Guards, the police, the gendarmerie and mobilization in times of war and peace;

9. The army's relationship with other public and private organizations and with the people;

10. The manner in which the army should take part in developmental, relief, training and productive activities and so forth;

11. The army's role in bringing about a 20-million-strong militia;

12. The personnel, training, intelligence, intelligence protection, operational, logistical and communications systems in the context of the army's organizational structure and character;

13. The manner in which defense industries' dependence should be eliminated and expertise, technology and logistical management transferred to the country with a view to achieving a self-sufficient army;

14. The manner in which the country's industries should be exploited for conversion into warfare and military industries in times of crises and war, and the manner in which the defense industries should be exploited with a view to conversion into industries needed by the country in times of peace;

15. The way to achieve a fair and monotheistic order in the army providing for elimination of discriminations and taking cognizance of the reasonable differences in the various intrinsic and economic fields [presumably a reference to the fact that differences in natural talents and aptitudes lead to variations in financial rewards];

16. The manner in which army personnel may take part in political activities, taking account of disciplinary issues and unity of command;

17. The disciplinary system and the manner in which relationships are established on the basis of Islamic moral values;

18. The personnel system, including selection, recruitment, training, appointment, promotion, deployments, insignias and ranks, privileges and commendations, punishment and dismissal from service;

19. (?Matters relating to morale) and welfare, including modes of feeding and living, pay and privileges, medical services, retirement insurance and so forth.

In order to obtain further information those interested may contact telephone number 842092 any day except Fridays and holidays from 0800 through 1200. [Tehran PARS in English at 0743 GMT on 29 July, in an tiem headlined "Joint Staff Calls for Views on Army's Future," adds: "The Joint Staff of the Army, in a 19-point statement issued on Sunday, called for views and comments on the points in the statement in order to increase the popularity of the army. All proposals, the statement said, would be studied so as to build up an army based on the principles of the Constitution."]

One of the main reasons for the rise in the price index is the increase in the price of red meat by 39 percent, tobacco by 12.2 percent, fresh [word indistinct] by 30 percent, rice by 46 percent, dairy products and eggs by 26 percent, fresh vegetables by 28 percent, bread by 15 percent and dried fruits and outdoor meals by 24 percent.

TEHRAN NEWSPAPER BAMDAD TO CEASE PUBLISHING ON 31 JULY

LD291329 Tehran BAMDAD in Persian 23 Jul 80 pp 1,9

["BAMDAD Writers' Council Statement": "Bamdad Announces Closure"]

[Excerpts] Since 15 March when a horrific and devastating bomb exploded in the BAMDAD building, conditions in the newspaper have changed. As individuals banded together, we thought that with our experience and expertise and without the sullied life of the past, which can never be compensated for, we might earn our living by the profession of journalism, following the policy of the Islamic Revolution and under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni, since during those old days, tens and hundreds of newspapers, magazines and publications were being printed by persons known and unknown, and we can still remember that methods and style some of them used. Our newspaper goes back to the days of lawlessness, and it still exists for the purpose of investigating and passing judgment on issues, relying on the fact that we are working on the basis of the press law approved by the Revolution Council and that we have permission to operate. We were hard at work, trying to publish a paper each day which was more comprehensive and more readable, and based on professional and fundamentally humane principles. The increase in our circulation testifies to the originality of our work. Although we started off with little money, we have reduced our financial expectations as far as possible so that we could continue to publish. The story of our financial difficulties is too long to recount here: They arise from lack of capital and of a printing press. At any rate, the explosion shook us all; we perceived that there were those who found our continued existence as an informative and independent newspaper unacceptable, and that after the revolution other factors and conditions had to be taken into account....

Following the bomb explosion, and on hearing the warning bell after a series of threats and accusations received by telephone and in writing, the BAMDAD editorial board held several general meetings and discussed the continued existence of the newspaper. The belief that during our new life as a newspaper our intention was nothing other than to render service and observe professional standards; and, in addition, the contemplation of unemployment of 2,000 people in Tehran and the provinces now earning a livelihood through the newspaper (with the country's economic problems at that) persuaded the editorial board that the newspaper should continue, and we went on publishing in spite of apprehension.... However, each day some problem appeared. For some time, the brother guards and members of the committees, particularly the central committee, were responsible for our security, and we are grateful for this. However, incitement, accusations and threats still continued, and these were influential factors in preventing efforts ebing made by the editorial board to work effectively to produce a good and fine newspaper. We were still involved in making good the damage caused by the explosion which was valued at (400,000 tomans), when we were faced with further heavy costs for the damage which occurred when the BAMDAD agent's offices in Esfahan were set on fire. In addition we have been significantly affected by the high prices and mounting costs. However, under such pressures, the members of the BAMDAD editorial board were faced with the impossibility of continuing to publish, and in these circumstances a meeting took place 2 weeks ago, in which all agreed on the closure of the newspaper, the only remaining problem being that of the date of the shutdown.

We hereby express our gratitude to all our readers, members of the clergy and state officials who have accorded us their approval, encouraged us and guided us on many occasions over the past 14 months, and we hereby announce that the last issue of BAMDAD will appear on the morning of Thursday 31 July. In conclusion, just as we requested the authorities to investigate us on several occasions when provocations and accusations were raining down on us, we again request all responsible state authorities, during this our final week of publication, to inspect all our administrative and financial records.

[Signed] The BAMDAD writers council

FARSI INTERVIEWED ON FRENCH PROTECTION OF BAKHTIAR

LD291127 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 21 Jul 80 p 16

[Unattributed report: "Jallaleddin Farsi Discloses French Information on the Guardians of Islam ('Pasdaran-e Eslam') Group"]

[Text] In an interview [date and place unspecified] with the [Islamic Republican Party] organ Jomjuri-ye Eslam, [former candidate for the Iranian presidency] Jallaleddin Farsi replied to various questions concerning the recent attack on Shahpur Bakhtiar's house and disclosed fresh information on the Guardians of Islam group as follows:

"They are a group that believe in a sort of Islamic internationalism in action, and they aspire to be the guardians of Islam the world over. Some of them come from Tehran, while some of their supporters are from other Middle East countries. This shows how many diverse nationalities there are among their ranks. As regards the number of casualties they suffered, none was killed and only one was wounded. On the other side, two were killed and one was wounded. Of course, none of those attacked was wearing a French police uniform, and if they really were policemen, or even French, the fault lies with the French Government, since anyone who plots a coup d'etat, who tries to bomb centers where Muslims are concentrated and whose aides kill guards and air force personnel is clearly likely to be the object of revenge."

When asked "have they been in touch with you?" Farsi said: "They asked me, and I signified that I approved of their action. I know some of them, and their leaders too, and I told them: 'Kill them whenever you find them, whether in France, Germany or America.'"

Jallaleddin Farsi was asked: "What do you understand from the remarks made by Mr Qotbzadeh?" He replied: "The action they took resembled that of the Muslim students followers of the imam's policy. Mr Qotbzadeh was not informed. He is an ignoramus as far as the matter is concerned and his remarks are those of an ignoramus. I consider his conjectures to be derived from French and American imperialism."

Replying to various questions at the conclusion of the interview, such as: "Will this group carry out similar operations in the future too?" and "How will the Iranian nation react to such issues?," Jallaleddin Farsi said: "They have no doubt decided to destroy the enemies of the Islamic Revolution wherever they are. They are in reality units of the Mojahedin-e Eslam, of various nationalities but of the one community, with Iranians making up the greater part of their numbers. However, as regards the nation's reaction to them, it must be said that our people should warn the French Government not to protect such criminals. If those wounded were really French policemen, then why were they inside Bakhtiar's room, on the very floor where he lives? Such protection is unusual and unacceptable, and in reality they are supporting someone there who is planning to kill our guards and air force personnel and plotting to bomb centers where people are assembled in large numbers. "If it is true that they are giving him political asylum, they should not be supporting him this way."

SHAHPUR BAKHTIAR INTERVIEWED ON POLITICAL EVENTS

LD282124 Paris Domestic Service in French 1724 GMT 28 Jul 80

[Interview with Shahpur Bakhtiar, former prime minister of Iran, in the phone-in program "The Telephone Is Ringing," conducted by Paris radio interviewer Claude Guillaumin and Paris radio reporter Ralph Pinto from the Paris radio studio, with Bakhtiar speaking from an unspecified location--live]

[Text] [Guillaumin] Good evening. President as-Sadat's Egypt is getting ready to put on a solemn funeral for the former shah of Iran, who died yesterday, 18 months after leaving his country for good.

The Americans are wondering whether or not his death is going to facilitate the release of the 52 men who have been hostages of the Iranians for nearly 9 months now.

The Iranians are celebrating the demise of the man who, in their eyes, was nothing more than a bloodthirsty tyrant, and, now that they cannot get him handed over alive, are asking for the shahbanou, her family and her property, and Mr Bakhtiar, to be handed over. And everyone is wondering what the consequences of Shah Reza Pahlavi's death are likely to be--both internal and external.

The guest on "The Telephone Is Ringing" this evening is Mr Shahpur Bakhtiar. Let me remind you that Mr Bakhtiar, in January 1979, was, for 12 days, prime minister to the shah, that he was present at his final departure, and only stayed at his post for a few more days before going into exile himself and taking refuge in Paris. You can put your questions to him on 524 7000 [Paris radio telephone number]. To help me I have Ralph Pinto.

Mr Bakhtiar, good evening. I should like to ask you first of all what you think of the piece of news which we reported as a possibility in the newscast to the effect that Mr Qotbzadeh, who is the Iranian foreign minister, has reportedly resigned and even, according to the Iranian clandestine radio which reportedly broadcast the news, has reportedly sought or is seeking refuge abroad.

[Bakhtiar] In my view, that changes nothing. Mr Qotbzadeh will probably be replaced by a man of more or less the same intelligence and the same virtue and the same competence. As you know, I am only talking to you about this as a hypothetical possibility, I have no other information. In a short time from now, in a few months, we will have further information. So if you ask me the question then, I will be able to answer you.

[Guillaumin] Right, but do you think nevertheless that it is likely in the present situation?

[Bakhtiar] Mr Qotbzadeh, at any rate, has made--to put it mildly--some blunders. The other day when he was on his way through Paris, he was asked about the attempt that was made on my life, and he replied that he knew absolutely nothing about it. When he was then asked how he thought the (?party) could (?have been) fomented, he simply replied: by rightists, by monarchists. When there was a mild protest at that argument, he replied: We have documents. So he had just said he knew nothing about it. Then he said he had documents about it.

Then all through what happened there were glaring contradictions. He said that the Iranian state--insofar as one can talk about a state in Iran--loathes terrorists and terrorist methods; consequently, as there is freedom in Iran--you may smile--there are no grounds for sending a gang of killers to Paris.

Well, a few days earlier Mr Khalkhali had said categorically that he had sent a gang for that purpose [word indistinct]. So, out of all that, when he said: He didn't send people to Paris to kill Bakhtiar, there were people, extremists if you like, fundamentalists, who said that he was wrong and who said: It was us, the brothers; our brothers attempted something glorious, and so on and so forth.

So, yet more of their never-ending upheavals and confusion inside the country, and the result is that Mr Qotbzadeh is not, apparently, toeing the correct imam line. So he may have been sacked without further ado and (perhaps) replaced by someone else.

[Guillaumin] A final question on this, Mr Bakhtiar: The dispatch, which comes from Washington, and which carries this news, talks about a clandestine Iranian radio station. Are you, as an influential member of the current opposition to the regime, aware of these radio stations? Are you using one yourself, possibly?

[Bakhtiar] But... no clandestine radio station as far as I am concerned, at any rate. [sentence as heard] But I know that there are people who have heard mobile radio stations, apparently, which transmit on the airwaves for 15 minutes or so, after which they go off the air or move somewhere else.

[Guillaumin] But there has been talk of clandestine radio stations, anti-Khomeyni radio stations in Iraq.

[Bakhtiar] Well, every radio station, I think in more or less every Muslim country is anti-Khomeyni. It isn't just these radio stations in Iraq. I think that the West has a great deal more respect for Mr Khomeyni than the Muslim countries, taken as a whole.

[Guillaumin] Mr Bakhtiar, having said that as far as this piece of news is concerned--and it is still only a report let me remind you--about the possible resignation of Mr Qotbzadeh, the Iranian minister of foreign affairs, we now come to the main topic, naturally, of this program: the disappearance of the former Iranian sovereign. Do you think that major consequences will arise from this disappearance?

[Bakhtiar] I chose my path a very long time ago, so I do not change plans or views each day. The disappearance of the king was foreseeable. Everyone was expecting it. So my plan and the way I see things cannot be modified. So I can tell you firmly that the struggle against dictatorship and against corruption and the (?ruling authorities) in Iran will continue.

[Caller] My first question is on the death of the shah of Iran. When Mr Khomeyni was in France and then in Iraq, too, [words indistinct]. Why did he, Khomeyni, want the death of the shah and all his family, and why is there so much hatred from a man of the religion of Islam?

[Bakhtiar] Yes. Well, Madame, you spoke of Mr Khomeyni as a man of religion and a leader of Islam. Well, the statement precisely starts with the first part of the sentence. Mr Khomeyni was here and he was in Iraq. He was never threatened. It would have been very easy for the Iranian Government to have brought down his airplane with his gang. But we never for 1 second thought of such things, for we had a sense of responsibility and a respect for human beings. Mr Khomeyni does not (?do thing) in the same way. He has another conception--archiac, medieval, what you will--where man, as a human value, has no value. Whether it is the king or whether it is a narcotics merchant, it is the same thing. He loves blood. Terror has to reign for him to be able to govern Iran.

[Caller] But Mr Bakhtiar, in the time of the shah, too, terror reigned.

[Bakhtiar] In the time of the shah terror reigned and who knows better than I who struggled for 25 years. During those 25 years I had to pay quite dearly. But in such a short period of time and with such cruelty one must see things for what they are. We never had this in Iran as I can remember what went on Iran, even before the shah. What is happening in Iran is almost unique in the modern world.

[Caller] Do you think that the exactions of the new regime make us in some way forget the exactions committed in the time of the shah?

[Bakhtiar] I think that one nail is driving in another [one event is causing people to forget a previous one] for better or worse.

[Caller] I am a little shocked at this groove in which you seem to want to stay, saying, that is, that everything has been dreadful in Iran since the departure of the shah. I am very shocked. I do not know if French people will all agree with Mr Valery Giscard d'Estaing, who sent a message of condolences, but you know the shah of Iran is dead, and I would almost say (?that he is going to the devil) and I say this seriously, because one does not want to forget what happened. [words indistinct] We know that SAVAK exists and existed. There were thousands of deaths. [words indistinct] A whole people which remembered how it happened for months and months and months, and no one spoke of it. [sentence as heard]

Gentlemen of Paris radio, you were much more discreet on what happened in Iran under the shah and in the time of the shah. [passage indistinct] Do you know what modesty is, Mr Bakhtiar, you who were the shah's last prime minister?

[Bakhtiar] I am very happy to tell you that I received the (?oath) of prime minister from the shah, exactly as Mossadeq did, as other prime ministers did. It was a sacrifice at a time when you wanted, either from ignorance or from religious conviction, or from interests which I do not want to describe, to set yourself on the side of the sinner. I wanted...[caller interrupts and is silenced by Guillaumin]

So as far as I am concerned, I think I made a sacrifice to avoid a bloodbath. And I told Mr Khomeyni on the day of his arrival in Iran: Mr Khomeyni, now you are here and you are a man who has an important place among the clery and you can and must avoid shedding Iranian blood. It was so simple. Only he is thirsty for blood. I tell you again. He cannot govern without bloodshed.

[Caller] Mr Bakhtiar, I am entirely in agreement with you. What is happening in Iran is serious. But you are going too far. You are inflating a man, Ayatollah Khomeyni, but there is an entire people which rose--and we know in what circumstances--against an army that was extremely dangerous from any point of view and against the police. And Mr Khomeyni was nothing: Mr Khomeyni was alone. One could see him on television in a corner of a room painted in white. He had nothing; he was squatting. Was the shah (?leading) a similar life? [Unidentified voice interrupts: words indistinct]

[Guillaumin] Mr Bakhtiar?

[Bakhtiar] Yes? [Unidentified voice interrupts: words indistinct]

[Guillaumin] Please gentlemen, please. I would not like this to become bar talk. Please let Mr Bakhtiar answer the question.

[Bakhtiar] I must tell you once more, Sir, that I went through every excessive action of the previous regime, all the tortures and similar things--things that the person who asks these questions has never seen or even heard about. This notwithstanding, the present government, which inherited a revolution desired by the people, does similar things and every day we have to read in the papers that people are executed--and in what conditions!--for drug offenses or other crimes for which they would have been sentenced in France or elsewhere abroad for 1 or 2 years in prison at the most. This is the problem. When thousands of people have been killed to gain freedom, one should not after all make this freedom even more insecure and the regime even more odious than it used to be.

[Caller] Good evening, gentlemen. The shah is dead and I will ask a question completely contrary to the one asked by the previous listener. I would like to know if the discretion showed by the West as regards the shah's funeral--as reported by various communiques--does not illustrate on governmental level the well-known phenomenon of the indifference and cowardice of masses as regards misfortunes? I would like to know what President [as heard] Bakhtiar thinks about it and, if he agrees with me, is it not necessary to emphasize very strongly the exceptional attitude of President as-Sadat?

[Guillaumin] Mr Bakhtiar?

[Bakhtiar] As far as the behavior of each government is concerned, it is up to each government to reply, taking into account its interests--present and future interests.

To make a digression: Since there is no responsible government in Iran at present, a government which would send a strong delegation to the funeral or make other overtures would perhaps have its embassy sacked and place its citizens in danger. One must understand that not everything is normal in Iran, far from it.

As far as Mr as-Sadat's behavior is concerned--he is a man for whom I have no particular liking and with whom I do not have personal relations--I must tell you that I have great admiration for him because this man, by his personal courage and by incurring great risks, agreed to help a friend in danger. It would have been preferable for others who had profited from the shah, more or less legally, for many long years, to have also afforded him asylum. But what As-Sadat did constitutes in my opinion an act of courage which will remain a positive page in the history of his life.

[Pinto] Mr Bakhtiar, I would like to ask you a question on your political activities. You assume at present an atitude of a leader of the opposition to the present regime in Iran--tell me if you agree with me on this--but there are other personalities who also believe that they have a role to play. We know Mr Nahavandi. General Oveysi is also known. There is much talk about Princess Ashraf, the shah's twin sister. But I would like to ask you what exactly do you represent? Are you well known in Iran? Do you really exist as far as the masses are concerned--since you often speak about Iranian revolutionary masses whom you know well? And how will you be able to express yourself? One has the impression that you have made a mistake in the battle; you imagined perhaps that the ayatollah was only a religious man, but he is also a political man, he has never concealed that. [passage indistinct] Well, what do you represent? What are you going to be able to do without using force in order to succeed in suppressing, in eliminating this regime which you are denouncing? All of you, not only Bakhtiar, but the others as well?

[Bakhtiar] Listen, as far as the others are concerned, you would be better to ask them, since my way of thinking, fortunately or unfortunately, in no way resembles that of Mr. Nahavandi.

Thus, you will have to ask those people. As far as I am concerned, I would refer you to a question which was asked of the former minister of foreign affairs, Mr Qotbzadeh. A few days ago he was asked the following question: What weight does Bakhtiar have in Iran? He said nothing, or practically nothing. Then the report which came--I do not know which French radio and television station--said that the Khomeyni government pronounces one word, Bakhtiar, as the one responsible for all its economic difficulties, its social insecurity, the extortions it commits every day on Iranian citizens, and so forth. If someone located a distance of 5,000 km away has so much influence, it is because he has supporters all the same who are there. If such and such a general who is, it must be admitted, being more or less murdered by the so-called Islamic tribunals, says "we want Bakhtiar," it is because that is what he thinks. Otherwise, he would have said: We want such and such a man. If freedom had been given to the people--leave me totally aside--the National Front, that of the cowards who left me, who joined the Khomeyni banner, was thrown into disorder, the Iran Party to which I had the honor of belonging for 30 years was thrown into disorder in all the towns of Iran, all figures who had a certain intelligence, a certain capacity for understanding, have been swept away by the mullahs' obscurantism. [sentence as heard] Now Khomeyni is a spiritual man who belongs to the clery or else he is a politician. Let me have my say: If one does not know how to read a map, one cannot be a politician. And if one says the United States has been harming you for 2500 years, one is displaying a really unequalled ignorance. I can only tell you that everything which I predicted concerning the Khomeyni regime has been proved entirely.

[Caller] You have said several times that you respect the Constitution. Given that in the current situation, the crown prince will become king after his father, will you respect that Constitution if you return to Iran, or do you intend to change that Constitution?

[Bakhtiar] Sir, it is not up to me to change the Constitution of a country. I am not a mullah who can say "the Islamic Republic," not a word more, not a word less. I cannot be a dictator in the style of Pinochet. I simply want to tell you that the old Constitution was much more liberal than the new one and that it is up to the Iranian people. The Iranian people alone will be able to decide on the case itself and on good grounds which article or articles should be modified. Thus, in principle I respect the Constitution, but it is up to the Iranian people to change certain articles. The consensus of Iranians depends rightly on what is proposed and above all on what the constituent assembly itself will decide, perhaps before submitting it to a referendum, but a true referendum. Personally, I am for a change in certain articles of the Constitution which I will state in due course.

[Pinto] But, Mr Bakhtiar, don't you think that if you return to Tehran one day you will always be the man who was the shah's last prime minister--for a period of 12 days --in the eyes of the Iranian people about whom you have just spoken?

[Bakhtiar] I really believe that this is extraordinary. There have been 43 prime ministers since we have had a constitution, that is, the former Constitution of 74 years, and there have been 43 prime ministers. I was one of them. They accepted all of them, including Mohammad Mossadeq. [Words indistinct] form a cabinet. Look at what I did during my 38 days; look at who dissolved SAVAK, who asked for the wealth of the Pahlavi foundation; who gave freedom to the press which it never had before and has not had since; who asked for the imperial commission to be dissolved, who dissolved it and gave all that; who opened the doors of the prisons so that the political prisoners could leave, all of them. Well, I did that. I am proud, I am honored.

To say as some rude press organs do that I (?was) a minister of the shah--what do they mean? It is the Constitution which gives the right to a president of the republic or a monarchical sovereign to give a firman, that is, a nomination for prime minister, who clearly should be responsible to parliament. If he is in the minority, he should disappear. Thus, this is a unique occasion for me. I beg the press, the radio and all the friends who [words indistinct] I am a prime minister like any other--no more, no less. Only during this very short period of time, despite all the intrigues of the Khomeyni clique and the obscurantism of those who were leading the country to the current state of ruin, I had the courage to do things which the others were not able to do.

[Caller] Good evening, Mr Bakhtiar. I think that with the death of the shah a page has been turned in Iranian history. Well, anyway, yesterday evening I saw the shah on French television making a statement in which he expressed the wish to have established a democracy of the Western type in Iran at the end of his reign.

So, the question is the following: Do you not feel that the shah departed prematurely? Did he have the possibility of going into reverse and establishing a democracy of the Western type, or was the game up, so to speak, and since everything was lost the only solution for him was to bolt?

Also, do you hope, you personally--to establish a new regime at some point in the future, and do you not feel that one must have the entire popular mass, the mass of Iranians, behind one so as to establish a new regime?

[Bakhtiar] As regards the last words of the king that you heard on television the other evening, I must tell you objectively that it was too late, much too late.

Had he called me to power 4 or 5 months earlier, Mr Khomeyni would still be at Neuphle-le-Chateau or at (An-Najaf) because what the Iranian people wanted was fundamental reforms toward democracy, progress, freedom and independence, and we had the program to achieve these points. What the people have actually gotten is what you can see.

Consequently, as regards the king, it was already too late. So, in my opinion, what he had to do was desist, go, and this is what I told him, what I made him understand, and he finally accepted this.

But the future Iranian Government must be a democratic government. This does not mean one with 98 percent of the votes; it means one with 50 plus one, and no more, because I am enormously mistrustful of regimes which in their referendums receive 98.5 percent of the votes, and one which for 18 months now, has been killing people every day. Where, therefore, are these opponents who are simultaneously so numerous and also so insignificant?

One must therefore accept that the law of the majority must govern and that the people must decide in full awareness of the facts.

If it were granted me to give Iran a constitution, I would give it in this way, and I have outlined this in the basic foundations of my ideas that you can read for yourself.

[Pinto] Mr Bakhtiar, to return to the political struggle that you are continuing to wage and which nearly cost you your life some days ago: Have you found good allies in the Iraqi leaders? Yes or no? Have you been to Iraq, as one hears sometimes or as one reads sometimes? Yes or no? Do you have a good radio broadcasting for you from Iraq and beamed to Iran?

[Bakhtiar] Listen, Sir. As regards Iran, I have said out loud and I repeat: I have been to Iraq, I have been to Switzerland, I have been to Belgium, and I have been to Britain, and if the Soviet Union or China or Bulgaria or Italy, for example, were to invite me, I would also go there. I am not afraid. I have my opinions and I express them. Take them or leave them.

[Pinto] Are the Iraqis helping you?

[Bakhtiar] The Iraqis are helping to the extent that they have common interests with us. Mr Khomeyni started by waging an unlimited war first of all on all the Muslims in the world. He started with Iraq by fomenting hatred between the Sunnis and the Shi'ites and by trying to export his revolution. One must have a nerve to export one's revolution to another country. As for his revolution, it is the shambles and disaster that you can see in Iran today.

So Iraq necessarily reacted. Iraq looked to see who was against Khomeyni; it observed very rapidly and very courageously, unlike many Arab shaykhs of other regimes who are afraid, or who are on the payroll of a major power which gives them the nod to act in this or that way. Iraq acted in an independent fashion, choosing its own interests, and I my own. I say what I believe to be the interests of Iran. We have excellent relations and I do not see why I should be ashamed of them.

[Caller] Good evening. I would like to ask you the following question: Do you not think, Mr Bakhtiar, that Iran is heading straight toward a civil war?

[Bakhtiar] Alas, I predicted this 18 months ago. My mistake was to say the truth a little too early. With all my heart, I hope that this will not occur on a large scale. But should it occur, the fault will lie exclusively with the present regime.

Granting autonomy within the national framework to the Kurds and other ethnic minorities is a thing that can be done without fuss. Making order and justice reign in all classes of society when he [Khomeyni] had a certain prestige--not today, a year ago--would have been so easy.

The drawback is that when one has nothing positive and constructive to offer to a society, one is obliged to create an atmosphere of fear and terror. Consider that 200 or 300 citizens have been executed on drug charges--this is unheard of. What would you do with a man who drugs himself in France? First of all, he has to be cured as far as possible. Should he be a drug peddler, he will get a maximum of 5 years. One does not kill people, and, furthermore, I am convinced that many of those who have been executed recently have been executed on this pretext. But the real reason was because of their political opinions.

[Pinto] Mr Bakhtiar, I apologize for interrupting you, but to go on at present, in view of the present situation, it appears to be a choice between either the present regime of Ayatollah Khomeyni or yourself. And I find it hard to imagine that the choice could take place harmlessly, easily. In other words, as that listener was saying, if the Khomeyni regime were to vanish, if you come to power once again in Tehran, would this not perforce be the result of a plot--and as that listener said--of a civil war? Apparently, there seems to be no solution other than a violent solution.

[Bakhtiar] Alas, there will be more bloodshed. This is not the fault of the Iranian people--it is the fault of the regime in power which does not want to hold a dialogue. When there is no dialogue, it is impossible to achieve any results.

Mr Khomeyni believes that he has irrefutably found eternal truth and that he alone possesses it. In any case, he has said quite clearly that if everyone says something and that if this something is not in accordance with what I say--that unless it agrees with the divine inspiration of which he possesses the monopoly--well, it is a false law, it is a fundamental mistake. And, consequently, with this mentality, as you say, we must fear violent clashes, unfortunately, very unfortunately, between the regime which must disappear--Khomeyni's regime--and a democracy which must establish itself. We hope with all our hearts that the bloodletting, so to speak, the catastrophe, will be of short duration. But the fault lies--and I believe that the whole of civilized society takes this view--with he who created the fashion of bloody executions every day.

[Guillaumin] A last question, and one which many listeners are asking, obviously: Will the shah's death change anything regarding the fate of the American hostages? Do you think that it can unblock a situation which has been completely deadlocked for several months?

[Bakhtiar] I was asked about this yesterday. I have said that with reasonable people it is possible to make forecasts. With a government--be it of the left, the right, communist or other--it is possible to foresee things and by making calculations to take a relative approach. But with people like Mr Khalkhali, like Bani-Sadr, like Qotbzadeh, like the Islamic students, like other centers of power, it is extremely difficult to forsee things. And the latest news we have received, which you have received, rather, shows that they say no, the hostages will stay. Some say that it depends on the parliament, in other words on Khomeyni. Others say that it depends on the handing over, rather, that it is necessary that the king's fortune be handed over. And, in addition, some say that my person, too, should be taken into consideration. I am very proud of this.

But the only thing that is sure is that the whole of this problem cannot be resolved by a government such as that of Kyomeyni without losing face. They committed an act of enormous stupidity 9 months ago and they do not know how to get out of it. And besides, if they were to free these people after all--the hostages have little to be blamed for, I would even say nothing--so if they were to do this, they would lose face, and this they do not want.

So it is necessary on the one hand that they show themselves to be anti-imperialist, while simultaneously serving imperialism, because our economy has indeed become the eonomy that the technically and industrially advanced powers wanted it to be. And on the other hand, they have to pretend that they are leading a fight against imperialism. I do not think they know which way to look.

[Guillaumin] Mr Bakhtiar, I thank you very much for having been good enough to reply to questions from France-inter listeners. Good evening, and thank you.

NATIONALIST JOURNALIST ORGANIZATION ISSUES STATEMENT

GF271340 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 26 Jul 80

[Excerpts] The illegal and bloodthirsty Khomeyni regime has rolled our nation in blood and has taken away all individual freedoms as well as denouncing international law. In Iran today, no one, including journalists, has any safeguards for performing their duties. Any facts or factual reporting are strongly crushed, and disagreement with the religious fascists and the corruption and murder by the cruel Khomeyni regime results in imprisonment, torture and execution. Hundreds of papers and magazines have been closed without any due process and their publishers and editors are in jail.

This situation has resulted in the departure of many journalists and professionals in other communications and information fields. [passage indistinct] In such circumstances, a group of patriotic Iranian journalists have banded together inside and outside Iran to form an organization of nationalist Iranian journalists.

Members of this organization have been successful in publishing tens of newspapers and magazines all over the world exposing the murders committed by this regime. [several passages indistinct] Inside the country, our associates are opposing the regime by publishing pamphlets and other nationalistic publications.

The nationalist journalist organization is announcing its formation at this historic time. It will tell the people of Iran and the world of its aims. [several sentences indistinct] We will try to expand programs in television and newspapers either in Farsi or about Iran; attract public attention to the situation in Iran; establish international reaction to the antisocial behavior of the Khomeyni regime; establish contacts with foreign intellectuals, politicans and journalists to inform them of the situation in Iran and [words indistinct]; publish the opinions of our members; and work actively with other nationalist groups in saving our country.

NVOI COMMENTS ON INTERNATIONAL, DOMESTIC ISSUES

Banning of Afghan Activities

TA232013 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 23 Jul 80

[Unattributed commentary: "Life Reveals the Nature of the Criminal Anti-Afghan Groups"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: Evidence and documents attest to the fact that certain bandit groupings, which have been set up in our country under anti-Afghan slogans, are not only acting against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan but also against our Islamic Republic and the gains of the Iranian nation's revolution. All are aware that a so-called headquarters of these anti-Afghan saboteurs was established in Mashhad. Their main task was to dispatch saboteurs and murderers into Afghanistan, set residential places, schools and hospitals on fire, poison innocent Afghan children and kill innocent people under the pretext of Islamic strugglers.

For a long time now informed circles had been observing that these criminal groups were being led and armed by the agents of U.S. imperialism and the Chinese Maoists, and thus consequently this headquarters of the saboteurs in Mashhad is a means for intensifying the subversive acts of U.S. imperialism and the Chinese hegemonists. U.S. imperialism is the number one enemy of the Iranian nation and is responsible for all the deprivations and misfortunes of the Iranian nation resulting from the evil domination of the Pahlavi dynasty. We are all aware that the Chinese Maoists also always supported and continue to support the most reactionary regimes, such as the sinister regime of the shah and Pinochet's bloody regime. Our country's experience also demonstrated that everywhere that the Maoists have entered the arena one should expect all kinds of provocations, subversions and counterrevolutionary acts. Lately also the Chinese Maoists, by removing the mask and by forcing an unholy alliance with U.S. imperialism, have created further hazards for the Iranian revolution, and are acting hand in hand with U.S. imperialism against the independence and freedom of the Iranian nation.

Certain documents which have been published in our country's newspapers indicate that the Chinese Maoists and the U.S. imperialists are setting up subversive counterrevolutionary Afghan groups, not so much against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan as for subversion in our country.

The indisputable proof of this charge is that in the training camps of the Afghan counterrevolutionaries the task of training and instructing these criminals is not only with the American and Chinese agents, but with the Savakists of the deposed shah. In other words the anti-Afghan slogan is a mask for hiding the nature of the plans of the CIA and the Zionist and Chinese intelligence services, and for creating conditions to organize, prepare and arm this criminal gang.

The criminal and anti-Afghan groupings are the best base for the counterrevolution in our country. Available evidence indicates that in the abortive coups of the counterrevolution in our country the criminal Afghan counterrevolution groups were entrusted with playing a specific role. The most important losses which our country incurred from the subversive activities of these groups are twofold. On the one hand they create the potential for straining our relations with our Muslim and neighboring country, Afghanistan, and on the other hand they create the background and the base for the operation of the counterrevolution and the infiltration of the agents and mercenaries of U.S. imperialism, Zionism and Chinese Maoists into our country.

The measure of our country's responsible officials, terminating the activity of the anti-Afghan gang, Jami'at-e Eslami Afghanistan, and of the public relations office of the so-called liberation movements in Iran--both of which at the same time are anti-Iranian organizations--is an appropriate and proper measure. (?Notwithstanding the fact) that a part of the activity of these counterrevolutionary groups is in the narcotics trade and smuggling in Iran and purchasing arms from the funds acquired through this means, investigating a number of the leaders and activists of these organizations shows that these groups have close relations with the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

One hopes that with the further clarification of the counterrevolutionary and anti-Iranian nature of these outwardly Islamic groups in our country the responsible officials will take decisive and appropriate decisions for terminating the subversive acts of this criminal gang.

Criticism of Foreign Ministry

TA252040 (Clandestine) National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran 1730 GMT 25 Jul 80

[Unattributed Commentary: "The Ministry of Foreign Affairs Should Be Widely Cleansed"]

[Text] Dear compatriots: The discontent of the true forces of the revolution, the revolution's organs and many of our homeland's public, political and religious figures with the work and operation of the ministry of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, especially its [word indistinct], has recently intensified in an unprecedented manner. These forces and figures rightly believe that the actions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs have up to now been contrary to the demand of the leader of the revolution--the great Khomeyni--in implementing a completely independent policy and toward safeguarding the gains of the revolution and (?strengthening) and safeguarding our homeland's independence.

In this connection numerous instances are cited. For example, it is said that one of the main tasks of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (? is the attempt) to divert the struggles of the liberated Iranian people from their primary course, namely the genuine path of the imam. The officials of this ministry, by distorting the imam's slogan of "neither East or West," through utilizing every means, especially by fabricating facts, making slanderous statements and rumor-mongering, have attempted and continue to attempt to direct at all costs the genuine struggles of our homeland's people against their number one enemy, the arch-satan, toward our country's northern neighbor, the Soviet Union. This is a country which even many prominent political and religious figures acknowledge defended and continues to defend the great revolution of the Iranian nation and its gains.

The supervisor of the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, according to Dr Peyman, leader of the movement of struggling Muslims, particularly by enlarging the Afghan problem, has attempted to open the gates to the archenemy, the United States, to prepare the ground for a deal with Washington, and to foil the anti-imperialist struggles of the Iranian people. Among the damaging acts of the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs--contrary to the path of safeguarding the Iranian revolution--was the hostility of the high-ranking officials of this ministry toward the struggling student followers of the imam's policy, and in this case numerous examples can be cited. The reason for hostility toward these struggling students and true followers of the imam's policy is also only their unremitting, revolutionary, decisive and sincere struggle against the archsatan, world-devouring U.S. imperialism.

A fact that should be mentioned is the policy of deceit and mischiefmaking of the high-ranking officials of the Iranian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ayatollah Montazeri, while stressing the necessity of purging the ministries, rightly says: A revolutionary is not somebody who goes to the imam and says yes and then carries out his previous work. The Revolution Guards Corps of Ahvaz in its detailed letter stated that it hopes with the help of God to expose the feature of those opportunists who occupy high-ranking posts in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and to [words indistinct].

We know that the aim of the news agencies of imperialist countries, like the bloodthirsty United States, Britain, West Germany, France and so on in Iran was and continues to be none other than to distort the facts for the purpose of fomenting sedition, chaos and riots, to agitate public opinion, and also to mislead the world's public opinion toward our country's internal conditions, and consequently to implement the plans of the CIA and the Pentagon; and this is a fact to which even the representatives of U.S. imperialism also acknowledge. Mr Brown, the chief of the United State's defense sector says in a press conference that we want to use correspondents to implement the plans of the CIA or take this explicit confession of Carter, who says: (?Three personalities), for the purpose of rescuing the hostages from the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, will enter the embassy under cover of being correspondents and cinematographers and will carry out their mission.

In such conditions the duty of every responsible official loyal to the revolution could not have been other than to expel these dangerous agents of the CIA and the Pentagon from the country. Mr Abolqasem Sadeq, the director general of foreign press in the Ministry of National Guidance, whose responsibility was directly concerned with the foreign correspondents, says: Unfortunately, it should be said that imperialist correspondents were not confronted decisively, and Western correspondents, especially U.S. correspondents in Iran, are operating completely freely. Abolqasem Sadeq writes: Following the occupation of the spy den by the Muslim student followers of the imam's policy, the number of foreign correspondents which was 30 reached 300. However, according to the decision of the Revolution Council, following the occupation of the U.S. spy den, Western correspondents, especially American, were expelled. Mr Abolqasem Sadeq writes: However, amid these conditions, Mr Qotbzadeh was strongly endeavoring to return the imperialist correspondents, and particularly U.S. correspondents. Even at that time when all the Americans had been expelled, in a letter to Mr Qotbzadeh, I protested his policy regarding foreign correspondents.

For at a time when, according to the decision of the Revolution Council and council of ministers, we had expelled all the Americans, he repeatedly used to make exceptions, and used to give permission to foreign and American correspondents to return. It is by taking these and other measures contrary to the imam's policy in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran into consideration that the true forces of the revolution, the revolution's organs, and many of our homeland's prominent figures are concerned with the work of this ministry and demand a deep transformation and an all-out cleansing in it.

Commentary on Purging

GF271913 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT 27 July cast carried a commentary entitled: "Our Country's Foreign Policy Is Contrary to the Revolutionary Spirit and the Imam's Policy." It states that today, in accordance with the nation's will and the orders of the nation's imam, purging has started in civil organizations. We regret to see that up to now purging has not been carried out in these organizations in the true sense and in a revolutionary manner. From the very beginning Imam Khomeyni stressed that the ministries and civil and national organizations should be completely cleansed of treacherous and parasitic persons and that the work should be handed over to patriots. Everyone can remember how the liberals tried to obstruct the implementation of these directives and how even the prime minister of the provisional government had officially announced that the dismissal of Savakists could create chaos, hence his pardoning of the Savakists. The liberals went so far that the imam has said that our country continues to be a monarchy. These remarks by the nation's imam apply to all strata and to all civil organizations that continue to operate in the former manner. Purges have begun following the nation's insistence and the imam's orders, and in each ministry where purges have begun we can see how this has become tantamount to an administrative revolution.

Our nation is struggling with world-devouring American imperialism. Our people demand that all vestiges of this big enemy be erased. The Foreign Ministry should play an important role in this very important matter and the officials of this ministry should have revealed the crimes of America, acquainted the world with Iran's revolution and gained the world's support for Iran. Unfortunately, we see how Foreign Ministry officials have not worked toward these goals. They have not been in step with our nation's revolutionary course and have at times even walked in the opposite direction.

Statement No 137 issued by the student followers of the imam's policy on the activities of this ministry said: At a time when the imam considers America to be the main enemy and the great satan and at a time when we are in a face-to-face conflict with this cannibal we see that the foreign minister has adopted a policy against the East as if today we have no differences or hostilities with America and as if all these plots and crimes are not being carried out by this world-devourer and one can come to terms with the big satan in order to confront the East.

When one considers the list of the Foreign Ministry's activities during the past few months, we see that the activities of its officials have been contrary to the imam's anti-imperialist policy. During the entire period in which Qotbzadeh has been in charge of the ministry, he has actually been continuing the same liberal policy followed by Bazargan's government. According to reliable reports, during his trip to Oslo he discussed the re-establishment of Iranian-U.S. activities in the political and military fields with the Social Democrat Party leaders and used all his efforts to allegedly solve Iranian-U.S. differences.

A Turkish newspaper reports that Qotbzadeh met secretly with Sahpur Bakhtiar in Switzerland and discussed how to alter Iran's present regime. The newspaper writes that the two sides agreed that opposing forces both inside and outside Iran be united and--at an opportune moment and with American aid--try to establish a pro-American regime in Iran. The validity behind what the Turkish newspaper has reported is something that requires closer examination. However, if we consider all the remarks made by Qotbzadeh in foreign circles we see that the report by the Turkish newspaper is not so baseless after all.

All organizations should not only be purged but should be renovated and turned into implementers of revolutionary policies.

24 July Commentaries

TA250839 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 24 July carried two commentaries.

The first, entitled "Put an End to the Obstinacies of the Club Wielders," says that the attacks and assaults of a group of armed persons on the offices of organizations and parties united with the revolution and true to the imam's anti-imperialist path have justly aroused the wrath of public opinion and the true forces of the revolution, whether religious or secular. During the past days in some cities, and a few days ago in Tehran, a group carried out an assault against the offices of progressive organizations and wounded a number of its members. It has been reported that a group of club wielders carried out their inhumane and counterrevolutionary actions under the name of the southern Tehran Muslims; the true Muslims of southern Tehran and all of Iran are disgusted by these irresponsible persons and their lawless actions. Among Tehran political circles it is said that these club wielders call themselves the supporters of one of the representatives of the Islamic Counsultative Assembly, who, during a recent speech in the Majles, attacked the (?leftist forces) of the revolution.

Meanwhile, the danger of the approach of a great number of U.S. naval forces to conduct maneuvers off the southern coast of Iran has become the center of attention of our country's political and social circles. Are these two events related? The experience of our country has shown that every time counterrevolution and bloodthirsty U.S. imperialism intended to carry out an aggressive act or plot against Iran, hands came out of various extreme leftist or extreme rightist sleeves, trying to create dissension among the revolutionary and anti-imperialist forces and mislead public opinion as to the real enemy--U.S. imperialism.

There is no difference between the acts of these groups and the Savakists of Mohammad Reza, who attacked progressive organizations and their members. If a group supporting a certain personality or representative or group of representatives--according to its monopoly-seeking political and social conceptions--should attack other revolutionary organizations, where will the country head and what will be its end? In our revolutionary country there should be no place for such counterrevolutionary actions.

The second commentary, entitled "Let Us Rise Together in Defense of the Islamic Republic of Iran," says that despite the foiled coup plot of U.S. imperialism, enemies of our nation and of the Islamic Republic of Iran have not let go and are waiting for an opportunity to sting our nation with their poison. After the foiled coup d'etat, the people of our nation are witnessing a renewal of plots, instigations and subversive actions of counterrevolutionary elements, who resort to different means to create discord among the true and united forces of the revolution. One day they blow up a pipeline in a corner of the country, the next day they attack the democratic and national organizations and on another day they place explosives in the center of Tehran.

All these actions are taking place when our country, more than at any other time, needs unity of action and speech among all the nation and all the factions, organizations and groups and true forces of the revolution, either religious or secular. The counter-revolutionaries carry out their criminal acts under the mask of defending Islam and the Islamic Republic of Iran, thus discrediting the Islamic republican regime in the eyes of the nation. Our country is going through very sensitive moments. Real and serious danger, both from within and abroad, is threatening the revolution and the country. All the true revolutionary forces should mobilize their strength in a united front and be ready at any moment. Even one moment of negligence can be an irreparable sin.

Recently, the imam has called on all the nation to be vigilant and ready. These recommendations of the imam should be the current concern of every Iranian. All the true forces of the revolution, disregarding any political or religious beliefs and relying only on the principles of the Iranian revolution, should rise together in defense of the revolution. History will not forgive those who fan the flames of discord and, by their actions, in reality aid the enemy. In order to safeguard the gains of the revolution and defend the Islamic Republic of Iran, a united, anti-imperialist front should be formed.

25 July Commentary

TA251905 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 25 July carried a commentary entitled "The Intensification of the Plot of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency Against Iran," which says that in order to regain its lost position in Iran, the United States, through the Central Intelligence Agency, and with the cooperation of the Israeli and Egyptian intelligence services, is hatching various plots against our country. The recent abortive coup was the latest attempt in this connection. In Egypt the shah is gathering counterrevolutionary elements who are being trained by the CIA. At the same time the United States is moving a large naval armada close to our country's shores. By interfering directly in our country's internal affairs and through military threats the United States is demonstrating that it has still not become reconciled to the Iranian revolution.

Lately with the aid of the CIA Bakhtiar met with the deposed shah in Cairo in order to plan and carry out plots against the Iranian revolution. The danger of new coups has not been eliminated; therefore, all the true forces of the revolution should safeguard the gains of the revolution united in the face of the plots of the counterrevolution and U.S. imperialism.

26 July Commentaries

GF261900 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 26 July carried two commentaries.

The first, entitled "Let Us Act According to the Directives of the Nation's Imam in Forming a Government," says that in a moment of so-called self-criticism, some of the present officials of the Islamic Republic point to one factor, that allegedly they were extremely limited in appointing people to important posts, namely to ministerial posts. For instance, the prime minister of the provisional government, Mr Bazargan, even said he had to turn a blind eye when appointing a minister or someone for an important government position since he had a personnel shortage.

If we take Mr Bazargan's remarks as a criterion, the result will be that he could not find anyone else except the famous feudalist Izadi for the Ministry of Agriculture. Did he not know that Mr Izadi was a feudalist and landowner? Undoubtedly, he was very well aware of this. However, since Bazargan himself believed that allegedly the principles of Islam do not conform with limitless ownership by people, he placed a large landowner at the head of the Agriculture Ministry. The result of this was that the agriculture minister of the provisional government obstructed agricultural affairs to such a point that despite the fact that the provisional government fell many months ago, the Islamic Republic continues to face the painful effects of the counterrevolutionary policy of the liberals and opportunists. It is by bearing in mind this fact that the imam of the nation says that Bazargan's government was not revolutionary. The imam states: Our mistake began when Bazargan's government did not act in a revolutionary manner. We are responsible to the nation for this policy.

It is to mend this big mistake that the imam asks our president to form a cabinet consisting of people with a revolutionary spirit and to act decisively on all matters. Despite what Bazargan and his kind say, our country does not face a shortage in administrative cadres. The fact is that revolutionary and sincere administrative cadres were not and are not necessary for the likes of Bazargan. They fear persistent experts who are faithful to the revolution, because from the very first days of the revolution they were thinking of ringing the death knell of the revolution and wanted to allow their Western masters to return.

In their statement on the blows inflicted on the victorious revolution by Bazargan's government, the student followers of the imam's policy rightly warn officials not to be conservative when forming the future government. In part of this statement the president is asked to hand the great responsibilities to those who are children of the revolution and have risen from the masses. The students rightly say: Why should the revolutionary organs of the guards, the reconstruction crusade and the committees not be strengthened as much as possible in order to form an impenetrable wall in front of the enemies? Are there not competent people in these organs to undertake important posts? If from the very first days we had placed the imam's directives as the basis of all acts, we would not be facing so many problems today, and it would not have been easy to carry out one plot after the other in our country.

The second commentary, entitled "America's Unholy Alliance in the Near East," says America is intensifying its militaristic policy in the Near East. It is using all subservient regimes in the area. An unholy alliance headed by America with the active membership of Egypt, Israel and Oman is being formed. Bases are being established in these countries, while a large group of fighters, bombers, and experts have been sent to these bases. The imperialist plot that was revealed in our country is a manifestation of the anti-Iranian nature of the unholy American alliance. All strings attached to the anti-Iranian plots lead to the CIA, and the Egyptian and Israeli spying agencies. The deposed shah, who is in Egypt, is involved in all these coup attempts. Washington has attached great hopes to its base on Diego Garcia, which is a fulcrum being used to intensify the imperialists' military presence. More than 400,000 American personnel are stationed there now, and enough war materiel to equip 12,000 marines is heading toward this base. It is interesting to note that Washington is trying once again, by creating fear, to draw some Persian Gulf states--namely Saudi Arabia--into a so-called Persian Gulf defense pact. Washington hopes that once this pact is formed it can play the leading role and in this way control our region's oil resources. Some regional countries have rightly stated that security in the Persian Gulf is something that concerns the regional countries alone.

28 July Commentaries

TA282035 [Editorial Report] The clandestine National Voice of Iran in Persian to Iran at 1730 GMT on 28 July carried two commentaries.

The first, entitled "Truths That Have Been Clarified During the Recent Coup d'Etat," says that during one of the sessions of the Majles, a number of representatives said interesting things about the coup d'etat plot by U.S. imperialist hirelings. The representative of Ahvaz said the nominations and elections during this very sensitive revolutionary period should be accurate. We should not be duped by appearances and should not appoint to high posts those who, until a short while ago, had their hands soiled with blood and today pose as revolutionaries.

Another representative, after pointing to the recent coup d'etat plot, demanded that the nation be informed of the hypocrisies and discords surrounding the Tabas problem, since all the answers heard up to now have not been convincing. The representative added that participants in this plot included a certain number of military pensioners, who operate against the revolution either from inside or abroad and still receive their pensions. The attention of the public should be drawn to the danger of counterrevolution and U.S. imperialism threatening the existence of our republican regime, and with this accute and vital problem, special attention should be paid to the activities of mercenaries of U.S. imperialism in the army.

After the foiled U.S. aggression in Tabas, all the true forces of the revolution have warned the responsible officials that the U.S. has not given up hatching plots and that many U.S. hirelings still occupy sensitive posts in the army. These true forces have justly demanded that the freed Savakists be punished and purged from the army. They demanded that new and young forces true to the revolution be chosen among the revolution guards. Unfortunately, the responsible officials have disregarded these recommendations, thus leaving room for future plots.

The question is how can an army formed by supporters of the former regime and enemies of the revolution safeguard the gains of the Iranian revolution? The liberated Iranian nation is in need of a people's army with faithful commanders united with the revolution.

The second commentary, entitled "The Future Government Should Have No Place for the Opponents of the Revolution's Path," states that in our Islamic Revolution, the enemies of the Iranian nation will be punished for their misdeeds. According to the verdicts of the Revolutionary Court, a group who participated in the recent coup have been executed. The recent coup d'etat plot has revealed the depths of Washington's crimes in our country. After its failure in Tabas, Washington has altered its tactic and has (?increased its activities) through its hirelings.

As we all know, this coup has been foiled, but this does not mean that our country has been relieved of new plots, whether from within or abroad. The enemy is waiting for the proper moment to inflict blows against the revolution and its gains. During such sensitive moments, the activities and declarations of some responsible officials, especially the foreign minister, have justly aroused the concern and protest of the people. Recently, some of the officials have made overt and covert efforts toward rapprochement with the United States.

An example are the recent secret talks Qotbzadeh held with U.S. officials in Norway to review the renewal of U.S. Iranian political and military cooperation. The Turkish paper YENI ULUS said that, according to Mr Qotbzadeh, the problem blocking the (?establishment) of relations with the United States is the resistence of the leaders of the Islamic Revolution. The paper adds that Qotbzadeh has met Bakhtiar and discussed the possibility of a pro-Western regime in Iran.

By repeating the slanders of the Western press the foreign minister is making efforts to strain the relations between Iran and its neighbor, Afghanistan. He constantly speaks of the existence of alleged threats from our neighbor, the Soviet Union, a country that truly supported and supports the Iranian revolution. When the alert people of our country review these declarations and actions of people such as Qotbzadeh, they become aware of the imam's words: "Every single one of the actual ministers is not revolutionary." Not only are these gentlemen not revolutionary, but there are those among them who deal behind the scenes with bloodthirsty imperialism.